

The claim amendments are predicated on applicants' teaching in their specification that the reconstructed oocyte obtained in the nuclear transfer process should have the "correct" ploidy"; that is, the reconstructed oocyte should be "diploid".

Support for the claim amendments can be found in the specification as follows:

It has now been found that nuclear transfer into an oocyte arrested in metaphase II can give rise to a viable embryo if normal ploidy (i.e. diploidy) is maintained and if the embryo is not activated at the time of nuclear transfer. The delay in activation allows the nucleus to remain exposed to the recipient cytoplasm.

(Page 4, lines 28-33.)

Correct ploidy of the reconstructed embryo is maintained when G0/G1 nuclei are transferred.

(Page 20, lines 5-6.)

In order to maintain the correct ploidy of the reconstructed embryo the donor nucleus must be diploid (i.e. in the G0 or G1 phase of the cell cycle) at the time of fusion.

(Page 10, lines 21-24)

Donors which are diploid at the time of transfer are necessary in order to maintain the correct ploidy of the reconstituted embryo; therefore donors may be either in the G1 phase or preferably, as is the subject of our co-pending PCT patent application No. PCT/GB96/02099 filed today (claiming priority from GB 3517780.4), in the G0 phase of the cell cycle.

(Page 7, lines 14-24.)

Since the new claims are fully supported by Applicants' specification, entry of the claims is respectfully requested.

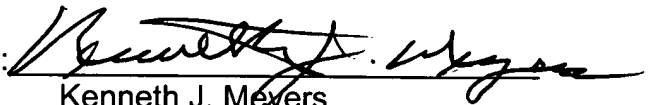
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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Amendment please charge the fee to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: October 2, 2002 By:   
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